Subject: How to mend broken coins--
transparent liquid cement.

Russell, Paul
[Washington, D.C.]

1934

PAUL RUSSELL
3523 WARDER STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 11, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th,
New York.

Dear Sir -

Mr. Belote, of the National Museum, has referred me to you for some expert advice.

Recently, my father, George H. Russell, who is President of the Washington Numismatic Society, was showing me one of his coins, a Stater of Sybaris, (510-550 B.C.). It was very thin, and I unconsciously squeezed it and broke it right through the center. It is supposed to be solid silver, but it has a more or less crystalline appearance along the broken edges.

I should like to know whether there is a good way to have the coin mended. Would you suggest a silver solder, or perhaps some sort

(OVER)

of cement?

Mr. Belote thought that the American Numismatic Society had been conducting some experiments in reclaiming old coins, that might help in this case.

We should appreciate greatly any suggestions.

Very truly yours,

Paul Russell

January 12, 1934.

Mr. Paul Russell
3523 Warder St. N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Concerning the silver coins that you broke I would advise you to mend it with a transparent liquid cement. We have mended several such coins in this way and it shows loss of a mend than trying to solder the two pieces together. We have done this to several of our broken coins. Of course the piece should not be subjected to much handling or abuse but if kept properly it ought to hold.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator